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S T A N L E Y

P A P E R S .

PART I.

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THE
EARLS OF DERBY
AND THE
VERSE WRITERS AND POETS OF THE SIXTEENTH
AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES,

BY
THOMAS HEYWOOD, ESQ., F.S.A.

—et usant de vostre accustomedee beniguite d'anner pour le repos de vostre esprit iceiluy accommodant aux familiaritez et courtoises Musiques quel que temps a la venue de l'hiver et des festins et choses merveilles y contenues. — *Le Pastorall de Monsieur Lays de la Tranchade.*

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

M.DCCCLIII.

THE EARLS OF DERBY,

ETC. ETC.

THE most ancient ballad hitherto discovered relating to the Stanleys, (1) Earls of Derby, is the "pleasant Song of Lady Bessy," professing to be written by Humphry Brereton, an actor in the scenes he describes, and a Cheshire gentleman in the service of Thomas first Earl of Derby. The original

(1) Weaver (*Monuments*, p. 477) says of Henry the Seventh's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, "Here lieth magnificently entombed Margaret Countess of Richmond and Derby, and only heire to John Duke of Somerset and first married to Edmund son of Owen Tudor, who begat Henry the seventh king of England, and afterwards to Thomas Stanley Earl of Derby. Two Churches namely of Christ and St. John the Baptist she erected for Students at Cambridge. She instructed also two divinity lectures, one at Cambridge the other at Oxenford. Who having lived so long to see her grandchild, Henry the eighth, crowned king, died the 12 July 1509 in the first year of his reign. Here is a long elegy made to her memory by the afore-said Skelton with this terrible curse to all those that shall treade, spoil, or take it away:

"Qui hoc erit, viderit, inquit, presens Epitoma.
Hunc laeteticque vocet Cerberus absq; mora,
Hanc tecum Statuas Dominam precor O Sacer erbis,
Quo regnas rutilans Rex sine fine manens."

of this "Song" has not been found, but the Percy Society in 1847 printed two copies, varying from each other, and edited by Mr. Halliwell. The more ancient MS. (Harl. MS. 367,) appears to have been written "about 1600," the other, in the possession of Mr. Bateman, is transcribed in "the time of Charles the Second." This song is criticised by Sir H. Nicolas in his valuable introduction to the Household Expenses of Elizabeth of York, analysed by Miss Strickland in her life of that Queen, and too briefly commented upon by Mr. Halliwell. That the original poem was the work of a cotemporary all agree. It is also manifestly written by one not indisposed to magnify the importance of the Stanleys:

That tyme the Standleyes without dowte,
Were dred over England ferre and nee,
Next Kynge Richard that was see stowte,
Of any Lorde in England free.

Richard is made to say to Lord Stanley,

Half of England shall be thine,
And equally deuyded betweene the and me,
I am thynne, and thou art myne,
And see two fellowes wyl we bee,
I sweere by Marye maiden mylde
I knowe none suche under the skye.

When Henry and Elizabeth were crowned,

The Earle of Derbye he was there,
And Sir William Standley a man of mighte,
Upon their heades they sett the crowne,
In presence of mony a wurthy wighte.

The Stanley possessions are enumerated with a minuteness which might have served for an *Inquisitio post mortem*.

The older MS. is preferred by Halliwell and Nicolas, and in many respects it is undoubtedly the best poem; still we value the two independent transcripts. The words "many" for many, "at whom?" for at home, "lowte messenger" &c. betray the copyist of the Harl. MS. to be a Lancashire man. The Bateman MS. sets down "Alroes" and "Lislay," which the older copy informs us should be "Dacres" and "Lisle," and a sentence is transposed (p. 17, p. 54.) in the later transcript injuriously to the narrative. But the entire omission in the Harl. MS. of the obligations of the Stanleys to Edward the Fourth, with which the other copy so well commences, leaves the inducement which makes the hesitating Lord at last yield to the hazardous counsels of Lady Bessy not of an altogether avowable description:

Shee barred the doore above and under,
That noe man should come thither nee,
Shee sett hym on a seate so riche,
And on another she sett hir bye,
Shee gave hym wyne, shee gave hym spice,
Saide, blewe in fether, and drynke to me,
The fyre was hoot, the spyce it boote,
The wyne it wrought wonderouslye,
Then full kynde in heart God wot!
Waxed the ould Earl of Derbye,
Aske nowe, Bessye, what thou wilt,
And nowe thy boone graunted shall be.—(p. 49.)

The later MS. alone expressly states that Brereton is Lord Stanley's squire:

For I will bring no man with me.
But Humphrey Brereton, my true esquire.—(p. 11.)

And but for this copy we should not have known that Liverpool was the port from which the squire sailed, although the unintelligible word "Hyrpou" may safely be conjectured to have been written "Lyropol." The change of person from the third to the first, so decisive of Breton's authorship, occurs five times in the Bateman MS. (pp. 17, 25.) and not once in the other: the former we assign to a Cheshire transcriber, from Bosworth being spelt as Bolesworth.

The poem is written with great spirit, the predominant feeling being indignation at the treatment Sir William Stanley met with from Henry the Seventh, and the obligations of the king to the man he executed are skillfully set forth.

The next subject on which the ballad writers attached to the Earls of Derby employ themselves was the victory at Flodden. The commission of array summoning the five northern counties to assist Lord Surrey is dated 6th August 1512. Durham and Cheshire are not included, but the gentlemen of the last mentioned county disclaimed being absent on such an occasion, yet only knights and men at arms were there, and not foot soldiers:

With children chosen from Cheshire,
In armour bold for battle drest,
And many a gentleman, and squire,
Were under Stanley's streamer prest.

But "all Lancashire, for the most part," rose, and the ballad with eager minuteness recounts the appearance to the royal summons. There are two ballads upon Flodden which the popularity of *Marmion* released from an undeserved obscurity. They are apparently the works of retainers of the Earls of Derby, with strong Lancashire attachments. The

first, of considerable length and divided into nine fits, was published by Mr. Weber, and the second, which is of more ancient date, and relates proceedings subsequent to the battle, is given in an appendix. As these compositions are familiar to the public, we need not analyse their contents.

Earl Spencer reprinted, for the use of the Roxburghe Club, from a book in the possession of B. Heywood Bright Esq. two Italian poems, entitled, "*La Rotta de Franciosi a Terrouano, Novamente Facta.*" and "*La Rotta de Scocesi.*" together with a Latin letter addressed to Cardinal Bambridge A.D. 1513.

The noble Editor's prefatory remarks will best explain the nature and value of these documents :

The original editions of the two poems contained in this volume were printed immediately after the actions which they describe.

The first poem, on the battle of Terrouano, has the names of the printers, and was published only four days after the news of the battle arrived at Rome: it may therefore probably have been the composition of an improvisatore, though unfortunately the name of the author is unknown.

The second poem, on the battle of Flodden Field, has much internal evidence of having been composed by the same author as the first; though in the original it is printed in a different character, and has neither a date, nor the name of the printer, or place where published.

The letter addressed to Cardinal Bambridge, who was at the time British ambassador at the Court of Rome, relates to both the battles, and there is every reason to suppose, from its having a plate prefixed to it similar to that prefixed to the Italian poems, that it was printed at Rome about the same time.

"*La Rotta de Franciosi*" contains no allusion to Lord

Derby, although that nobleman was at Terrouane, and is said to have been the second in command of the first division of the English army.

"La Botta de Scoeci" gives a less unintelligible account of the battle of Flodden than might have been expected, when the distance of place, the conjectured author, and the confusion of our chroniclers upon the subject, are considered. The epistle to Bambridge is only another version of the Lord Admiral's Gazette, and of these productions we should say with the old ballad writer :

But yet the man is left untold,
On whom the matter wholly hinges.

The Howards were indeed slow to confess how much they were indebted to the Stanleys for the victory at Flodden: indeed there had been a feud between the families since Bosworth, where the death of Norfolk was imputed to Sir William Stanley. Lord Derby says :

My uncle slew his father deare,
He would have venged him on me.

The ideas of the improvisatore as to the precise position of Sir Edward Stanley are not very definite :

nel primo corno de lo agme seconda
era il bon Eduardo stanlei — (p. 29) :

he afterwards places him "nel corno sinistro," which agrees with the description given by Halle :

Fourthly, Eastwarde was Syr Edward Stanley, Knight, capitayn of the left wyng.

When the division commanded by Sir Edmond Howard was defeated, and when the Earl of Surrey and the Lord

Admiral with difficulty supported themselves, Sir Edward Stanley, moving from the inglorious post which the jealousy of Surrey had assigned to him, attacked the hill of Bramston upon which the Earls of Lenox and Argyll were stationed. The letter merely says: "*Comes Linuensis et Comes Argille scoti cum magna potentia D. Eduardum Stanleium adorti sunt: a quo maxima pars illorum occisa.*" The proximity of the Italian renders the Knight greater praise:

Tal segue in questa parte la battaglia
 ma nel corno sinistro, il bon Eduardo
 come un Leon tra li nimici si scaglia,
 e ando per forza fino al lor stendardo
 con la sua spada ogni schiera sbaraglia
 ah quanto si mostro quel di gagliardo
 haveva morto già il Conte de Argiglia
 et quel de Linues caccia a tutta briglia.

Come il pastor si vede a lei na volta,
 forsi soldati predator temendo,
 cacciar il gregge ver la selva folta:
 questo, & quel, con la verga percottendo
 piu che non sole, per la preda molta,
 tal fa de li nimici combattendo
 el forte Eduardo d'ogni larde degno
 ma dove percotea rimane il segno. — (p. 37.)

The reader may compare this passage with the conclusion of the eighth fit, and the following portion of the old ballad on Flodden Field, or with the spirited description of the same event in the last canto of *Marmion*.

"But for a truth," says the old chronicler, "this wyng did very valiauntly, wherefore it was thought that the sayd Sir Edwarde might that day not have been missed."

Lancashire and Chesshire, said the messenger.
 They have done the deede with their hande
 Had not the Earl of Derbye been to the true
 In great adventure had been all England.

The following is from the "Bataile of Brampton," in the *Mirror for Magistrates*:

And there, by the hand of God he was prostrate,
 By the helpe of th' Eagle with her swaddled chyld;—
 The Buckesheds also the Scots has beguilde
 And with their gray goose-wings doubtfully them dight,
 By the helpe of God, and in our prince his right.

The assertion in the letter: "Rex ipse occisus fuit non amplius longitudine lancee ab illust. Comite Surrensi," is copied from the Lord Admiral's Gazette; and the ballad writer advances, with equal modesty, Sir Edward Stanley's claim to this species of regicidal honour:

And last of all among the lave
 King James himself to death was brought,
 Yet by whose fact few could perceive
 But Stanley still most like was thought.

It is remarkable that, in describing Sir Edward Stanley, the Italian almost translates the epithets in the ballads:

il bon Eduardo stanlei: quello
 qual e di tanto senno, & di tal pondo.
 A noble Knight both wise and hardy.

And by another it is said,

His wisdom great all wondered at;

and further to illustrate this attribute, Sir Edward is made to deliver a speech filled with learned allusions.

Bishop Stanley gives a long description of his father's character, and Seacome is eloquent upon the hero of Flodden. Some curious information respecting Sir Edward Stanley may be obtained from the wills in the *Testamenta Vetusta*.

The licensing of companies of players became usual amongst the aristocracy early in the reign of Henry the Eighth. The accounts of the Priory of Thetford from 1461 to 1540, show that the players of the Earl and Countess of Derby visited the monks during that period,⁽¹⁾ as did the king's bearwards; and we may assume that the acting religious plays, and singing, divided with feats of activity the performances of this Derby company of actors. How far they were attached to the household of the Earl admits of a question; there is evidence that both with Lathom and Knowsley the Chester actors and singers, so renowned for their miracle plays, had constant communication, and it is reasonable to suppose that the Earl's company was mainly recruited from that city. In 1513 the second Lord Derby addresses his son:

Farewell Westchester for ever more,
And the Watergate, it is mine own.
I gave a mace the sergeant to wear,
To wait on the mayor, as it is known.
Will I never come that city within?
But son Edward thou mayst it claim of right.

The presence of the company at Thetford proves that they derived, at this early period, a portion of their support from travelling, and consequently that they studied the amusement of the public. This led them to representations

(1) *Collier on the Stage*, vol. i. p. 83.

attracting the notice of government, and wholly beyond those purposes of show and amusement for which Henry originally promoted the licensing of actors: hence the privileges conferred by the patron were soon restrained by the sovereign. In 1555 Jube the Sane supposed to be a Moral, and afterwards a Masque, were performed at Court⁽¹⁾ on the marriage of Henry Lord Strange. These were probably acted by the royal players, for one of the first proceedings in Mary's reign had been to issue a proclamation "for redresse of Preachars, Pryntars, and Players," in which plays and interludes are forbidden to be performed except "they have her graces speciall licence in wryting" for the same. In 1581 the following record seems to relate to a company of mere mountebanks: "Sundry feates of Tumbling, and acti-vity, were showed before her Majestie on New yeares day at night by the Lord Strange his servauns."⁽²⁾ That the person licensing players did sometimes interfere to protect them in disputes with civic dignitaries, and that thus merely using the name of a powerful patron, and wearing his badge, were not all the advantages of a licence, Mr. Collier shows; but instances even of such interference are rare, and we can trace, towards the close of the sixteenth century, no real connexion between Lord Strange and the players he licensed. It may indeed be suspected that the actors, presuming on their nominal protector, sometimes set municipal authorities at defiance, and sometimes in so doing found that instead of a mayor they had a secretary of state to deal with. Burleigh, on the representation of Tylney, the Master of the

(1) Collier, vol. i. p. 146; also Stowe.

(2) *Accounts of Revels*, &c., p. 177, Shakespeare Society.

Revels, directed the Lord Mayor, in 1589,⁽¹⁾ to silence the Lord Admiral's players, and those of Lord Strange. The former "very dutifully obeyed," but, writes the Lord Mayor, "the others in very contemptuous manner departing from me, wente to the Crosse keys, and played that afternoone, to the grette offence of the better sorte, who knew they were prohibited by order from your Lordship." The Lord Mayor sends for the "said contemptuous persons," and commits two to the Compter, and prohibits all acting in his jurisdiction. This interference arose from Martin Marprelate having been produced on the Stage: it took place on November 6th, and on November 12th a commission was appointed to inspect and license plays. In February 1597-8 only two companies (the Lord Admiral's and Lord Chamberlain's) were allowed "to use and practise stage plays."⁽²⁾

We however find in 1591 Lord Strange's company in possession of the Rose theatre, and from Henslow's accounts from 19th February in that year to the 1st of February 1593,⁽³⁾ these performers are shown to be under the management of Edward Alleyn, one of the greatest of English actors, the founder of Dulwich College, and of his step-father the illiterate Henslow. The plays produced were those which preceded the Shakespeare and Jonson period, and were written by Marlow, Greene, Lodge, &c. Collier says that a company licensed by Lord Derby assisted in the (Court) festivities of 1593 and 1599. The increasing restrictions on acting, and especially the act 1 Car. I., renders it doubtful whether this company existed in the seventeenth

(1) Collier, vol. i. pp. 272-276.

(2) Collier, vol. i. p. 208.

(3) Printed by the Shakespeare Society, pp. 20-39.

century, certainly not in the importance it had formerly attained.⁽¹⁾

But we have anticipated events, and must return to the third Earl of Derby, the magnificent Edward, the pupil of Wolsey, (1521-1574). We find in the *British Bibliographer*, vol. iv., "An Epilogue of the Dethe of the Ryghte Honorable Margrete Countess of Darbye, which departed the 19th of Jan^r, and was buryed the 23^d of Phebruary, In anno Dai 1558, on whosse soll have m'eye. Amen, quotho Rycharde Shcale":

Oh! Latham, Latham, thowe maste lamente,
 For thowe hast loste a flower
 For Margrete the Countesse of Darbie
 In the Yerthe hath bylte her bowar.
 Lethe the Messengar of Gode
 On her hach wroulde his wyll
 Whom all Creatures must nedys obey
 Whether they be good or ylle
 * * * * * *
 When thys good Ladye did perseve
 Fro hence she schulde departe
 "Farewell my good Lorde and husbände," sayde she
 Farewell with all my harte,
 The noble yerle of Derbe,
 God keepe the both nyght and daye
 On syght of the wolde I myght see,
 Or I went hence awaye,
 Fache me the last tokene, quotho she
 That he unto me sente,

(1) There are plays not in Henslow's list, *printed* in the seventeenth century, and said to have been performed by Lord Strange's servants, as the two parts of Edward the Fourth, 1613, Faire Em, 1631: this last has for vignette the spread eagle, the cognizance of la Tremouille.

To kys hyte now or I departe
Hite ys my wholl intente."

* * * * *

Nowe ys this noble Lady dede,
Whom all the world did love,
She never hurt man, woman, nor childe
I dare well saye and prove.

* * * * *

Which joye that we may all unto,
God graunt us of his grace,
When that we shall wend hence away,
In Heaven to have a place.

Amen quoth Rychard Sheale.

The celebrity enjoyed by Chevy Chase since the days of Addison, and the proofs brought forward by the anonymous contributor to the *British Bibliographer*,⁽¹⁾ in confirmation of the supposition that Richard Sheale was its author, are sufficient apologies for laying before the reader an extract in which the writer gratefully acknowledges his connexion with the Stanley family:

I thanke God, my Good Lord and Mastar whom I sarve,
In my greatist povertie from me did never swarve,

(1) Vol. iv. p. 97. The earliest known MS. of Chevy Chase exists in a small quarto volume in the Ashmolean Collection, Oxford. It contains several other poems written for the most part in the same hand. The authors' names are thus subscribed: "Finis, quoth John Wallis," "Quoth William Case." Many of these, as well as Chevy Chase, are followed by "Expliceth, quoth Rycharde Sheale," and immediately after one with this signature is a poem concluding, "Finis, author unknown." Hearne was mistaken by the date 1588 on one of the leaves of the MS., and Bishop Percy argued against Sheale being the author, adopting this error. Chevy Chase is shown to have existed in 1548, the date of the publication of the

But dyd weyt for me frendly after a lovyng facion,
 And my Lord Strang also on me dyde tak compassion,
 For who's sakys, I thank God, I have been well regardyde,
 And among ther lovyng frends, I have been well rewardyd.
 The goodnesse showyde to me I cannot wortheleye prayse,
 But I am det bownden to pray for them all my lyfdayes.

Brit. Bibl., vol iv. p. 103.

About the year 1562, Thomas Stanley, Bishop of Sodor and Man, and son of Sir Edward Stanley the hero of Flodden, wrote a metrical chronicle of the Stanleys of Lathom.⁽¹⁾ There is an account of this prelate in Wood's *Athenæ*: he died in 1570, and his verses have been received by genealogists as the most authentic account of his family. There

"Complaynte of Scotland," and Shute certainly wrote in 1558, and possibly before that period. See also Ritson, p. 293.

(1) Jenson began the pedigree of the Stanleys in verse, but soon abandoned the attempt. The lines occur in the poem entitled "Eupheme, or the fair fame of Lady Venetia Digby."

I sing the just and uncontroll'd descent
 Of Dame Venetia Digby, still'd the Fair,
 For Mind and Body she most excellent
 That ever Nature, or the later Air,
 Gave two such Houses as Northumberland
 And Stanley, to the which she was co-heir.
 Speak it you bold Penates, you that stand
 At either stem, and know the veins of good
 Run from your roots; Tell, te-tide the grand
 Meeting of Graces, that so well
 The flood of virtues in her, as in short she grew
 The wonder of her Sex, and of your blood.
 And tell thou Able Leigh, none can tell more true
 Thy Nieces line, than thou that gav'st thy name
 Into the kindred whence thy Adam drew
 More dures honour, with the Cæstrian fame
 Of the first Lupus to the family
 By Ranulph.

(The rest of this Song is lost.)

are many copies of these lines: one in the Harleian MSS.; another in the Coles Papers: a third mentioned by Warton in the Rawlinson MSS. Weever quotes them, and Mr. Halliwell has lately printed the work in the *Palatine Anthology*. The statements of the Bishop are manifestly not worth refutation: and yet, being generally adopted, they have occupied our later and exact Lancashire antiquaries, who refute them with facility.

The commencement of the history is occupied in dwelling on the pleasure afforded by such an undertaking, and although the verse is not of remarkable smoothness, yet it hardly furnishes an apology for Seacome's mistake, who has printed the first fifty lines as prose. The reverend versifier rehearses how Stanley sprang from Audley, and then shows the manner in which his ancestors became the possessors of Stourton and Hooton. He dwells upon the joust betwixt the Admiral of Hainault and Sir John Stanley, the second brother of the house of Stanley of Hooton, in which the Englishman not only won renown, but received from the King

to his hire

Wyng, Tryng, and Ivyng, in Buckinghamshire.

The good Knight, thus enriched, sallies forth in quest of adventures, and here it may be remarked, that the moving accidents which befall him have been liberally used to adorn the "Garland" of his descendant William Earl of Derby. Sir John Stanley visits the court of France, then passes to that of the Great Turk, and thence, after a rhapsody on the superiority of greatness achieved by arms over that resulting from the efforts of "pens, ink, and paper," he is described as

proceeding to the assistance of Sir Robert Knowles, in the invasion of France, whence, after threatening Paris, he returns to receive the praises of Henry the Fourth.

The prelate now arrives at a period of his history when an event occurred advancing this soldier of fortune to a condition much above that in which his family had hitherto moved. The second fit begins with some particulars of the Lord of Lathom, in Lancashire, whose daughter became enamoured of the valiant Sir John Stanley, and sent to tell him of her love. He is made very prudently to enquire the condition of the lady, and finding her in every respect a desirable person,

Her father oulde, and she his undoubted heire,

he condescends to encourage her advances. The Lord of Lathom, however, opposes the match as unequal, but

Within short space after he stole her away,
Or she stole him, I cannot tell you whether.

The father is presently reconciled, and, departing this life, bequeaths his vast possessions to be the foundation of the future greatness of the Stanleys. The remainder of the Knight's life is briefly set forth: the obtaining the Isle of Man, a second campaign in France, and his proceeding Lord Deputy to Ireland, where he died. This Sir John Stanley was the founder of the family of the Earls of Derby, and although his descendant assigns to him the accomplishment of many incredible things, there is sufficient ground to believe that he was one whose memory his successors cherished with justifiable pride. The son of this brave man is dismissed by the Bishop with slight notice. The feats of

"yong Tom," as the second Lord Stanley is somewhat familiarly styled, are even more barbarously dealt with than those of his ancestors, whilst the same mixture of truth and fiction pervades the narrative. He is described as burning the town of Kirendbright at eighteen years of age, and marching

to Edenborough with banners display'd
With Eagle and Child, fair Wapping in the wind,

and the merit of taking Berwick is assigned solely to his exertions.

The battle of Bosworth and the subsequent elevation of the Stanleys next occupy the versifier. The accession of power thus obtained by this house renders an account of its future fortunes an easy task. The Bishop, however, avoids the beaten road, and with a pardonable vanity dwells on the lives of his more immediate kinsmen the Lords Monteagle, and concludes with the battle of Flodden. The Cole MS., which appears copied from recollection, has eighty additional lines in praise of Sir Edward and a Sir William Stanley.

There is an anonymous Epitaph upon Edward Earl of Derby in the Harleian MSS. No. 2129, fol. 35, wherein the memory of that magnificent nobleman is thus enshrined:

Behould heare lyeth close in clay
A wight of worthye fame
Of Statelie stock, of Lordlye line
And Stanley was his name
* * * * *
Our noble Queene bewailes the losse
Of such a precious perle
A thousand tymes, no doubt, she sayes,
He was a noble Earle.

In helthe and sicknesse well he lyy'd
 And well he toke his ende,
 Would God eieh one would learn by him
 Their spotted lyfes to mend.

The heavens doth now possess his Soule
 The earthe his corps retayns
 Hys passed lyle a looking glasse
 For others yet remaynes.

Henry Earl of Derby (1572-1593) and his Countess the Lady Margaret Clifford (ob. 1594) are connected with the literature which preceded that of the age of Shakespeare. This Lady, whose royal descent rendered her knowledge of astrology and divination, when applied to the subject of the succession to the throne, somewhat dangerous, (Camblan.) may have given her son the love of letters for which he was so distinguished, as she certainly bestowed upon him that nearness to the crown which is said to have caused his death. We find Earl Henry in communication with the actors, poets, and heralds at Chester. There is a book (Harl. MS. 1927) of 129 folios, containing verse and prose, chiefly by Thomas Chaloner¹) and Randle Holmes senr., in the handwriting of

(1) Thomas Chaloner of Chester, a herald painter and genealogist, and Ulster King at Arms, (Ormerod, vol. i. p. 296.) He is described in a book of Welsh pedigrees (Harl. MS. 1970) as King of armes for Ireland. His son Jacob and grandson James afterwards carried on in Chester Thomas Chaloner's business, and these must have done so at the time the Holmeses were similarly employed (Ormerod, vol. ii. p. xvii.) Thomas Chaloner received on the day of his death, 14th May, 1598, the appointment of Herald north of the Trent, (vide epitaph in St. Michael's Church, Chester.) The first Randle Holmes married Chaloner's widow, (Ormerod, vol. ii. p. 252,) which will account for the book being in part occupied with Holmes' productions. Excepting the epitaph on Lord Essex, we do not observe any

the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The only verses addressed to Lord Derby are in fo. 10, "A Coppie of the demonstrationes of Parker's worke to the right honorable my good L. Therle of Derbye Julie 23." This Parker⁽¹⁾ was an old servant at Lathom, and designing a marvellous screen. Chaloner seems to have been employed to paint it, and adding these laudatory and explanatory lines, placed them on the outer part of the fold: for the direction, "Thees on the backside," follows the above title:

Right honorable earle, my L. I yeld thee heare,
the leaie unfold, and theare beholde, what dooth appeare,

of the poems have a public interest: the one fo. 33, "wherein is showed that pryncer causeth beinge, T. Chaloner apud Knowsley A: 1577," is a spirited production.

(1) There is a poem on Parker by Chaloner, fo. 29 b:

Henry Parker's old age in paper pale dothe tell,
To wold, to welthe, to war, to want, and v racke,
E. rewell. 1576 August.

Parker was attached to the wardrobe at Lathom: but he had shared in the inspiration of the place, and had once written poetry:

1.

Nature dothe mee denye
Of wounted sports, on l play.
And Crookedness on mee doth lye
As al things must decay.

2.

My handes with palsey shake
Myne eyes are bleer and dyme,
My Muse dothe me heare quite forsake
And favour none can wyne

3.

Far to disbrace in ryme
The Solemp Solace past
My quyl doth quake, trust tredes the tyme
Care can no reemine [reeminge?] cast.

most humble yet, (thy servant,) craves pardona moy,
 for myn offence, that thee presentes, a rareless toye,
 The pate [paint:] of seruene in Parker's praise,
 O noble earle to thee thus says.

No trifflinge toyes for tiele heades
 ne vault of vaine delight,
 hath Parker's paine, and practise put
 in view of every sight,
 That heere beholdes, a blossome brave,
 from out the garnisht grownde,
 astronomy, and astrelogic,
 that parkers paines hath fownde,
 no keeper of a parke he is,
 but parker by his name,
 whom fownde mee fourthe in forme and facte,
 and put me heere in frame,

no greeke, no latin'ste, ne yet no foltche of frenchman fyne.
 how then? a man of lancast-shire wher-in ran all his tyme,
 heere bred, and borne, yea and brought upp within this noble hall
 of Lathom nigh he alwaies ly'd, and endes his dayes wthal,
 and in the tyme that henrie reigned of Derby erle, and Lord,
 Standley and Straunge, the Isle of Man which yeldethe lyke
 accorde,

knight of the honorable ord. of St Georges garter,
 which Elizabeth the queene well likt, and of her subjectes in grete
 favr,

a yeman in the wardropp long hee servyd still the space
 of 22 yeares well likt, and taken for the place.
 and nowe by tracte of tyme hee docte with graie, and horie heyres,
 yeldes heere to thee and thie posteritie, as in thy hall appears;
 Th'erthe as how yt stands bethe with hills, and valleys, brave,
 with towrs and towers, with trees, and brooks, and many a cave,
 and next to it the Instrument that sailors have on sea,
 whereby they know to goe, and how again to fynd their way,

and how to catche, and faitche their course by compasse all ys
shown,

and how th'erth devyds itselfe, therby is also known,

* * * * *

and next to that ys to bee seene another thinge as strainge
which is, as howe and when the moone in everie moneth doth chaing;
and how she dooth her lighte augmente, and how she fades againe,
and how she quarterlie doth stand, heere maist thou see full plaine,
The course of all the planets brought arisinge at the east,
By primum mobile being led to sitt againe at weast,
a deepe designe it represents, a practice good also,
That with his pains on earth the manner of the heavens doth sho,
and how therwith the dozen signes are led, and brought about,
a needfull thinge in such a place, and to effecte no doubt,
To shewe thee when the daie is long, and how it shortens night,
and when the night is longe againe, and how the daie doth light,
and length it gives to man, and beast, and combrt to all the vers.
To joine the daie, and void the night, by greater somes of howres,
Eitch daie that in the moonrth their is to knowe, hee shewes the
waie,

And how throughout the yeares about when comes a hollie daie,
And how the stubborne Saturne steeres the highest heaven above,
And next to him how gentle Jupiter takes course alike to move,
And how that Mars mercilesse is to follow on,
And how that solemp Sol in mid-st like king is also known,
And how dome Venus vaunts herself, and triumphs with her fire,
By whom is everie man inflamed, and burnes with her desire,

* * * * *

wherefore yet shalt thou have that yet I have not to thee said,
a bowre, wherein eithe houre doth raigne the planet plaine displays.
And last of all, yet shall ye knowe eitch howre within the daie,
The bell to ring, a needful thing, wherby to woorke and plaie,
wherby to rise, wherby to rest, wherby to praye, and eate,
wherby the Cook within the house makes measurement o'th
meate,

and thus my Lord, the pate (paint ?) of screene with Parkers paines
is dight,

The platt that voydst was before beares now the bravest sight,
a sight, a stopp, for wise, and sage, to gaze and muse thereon,
yea, sutehe a sight till now in England sawe vee none,
a vew whereof the wise may vaunt, and thinke yt very rare,
how that the course of heav'n, and erthe, on screene declared are.
O thus my Lord and Mr. booke, I have not more to saie,
as now for this, but thus do cude, and unto god doe praie,
To geare the happie lyfe, and long, and good successe withall
For to enjoye the faete, and fructe, of all this workes, and hall.

Subscribed

Your Honor's most humble servant

Thomās Challoner

1576 July.

Thus was the great screen placed in the hall at Lathom, for the edification of the retainers of the family, and seventy years later, it probably fell into the hands of the sequestrators.

The year following, "1577, the Earle of Darbie did lye 2 nightes at his [the Mayor of Chester's] house: the Shepheardes play, was played at the highe crosse, with other triumphes."⁽¹⁾ This visit of Lord Derby is not said to have been at Whitsuntide, the period when the 24 companies of Trades at Chester, each in its own carriage, or rather moveable scaffold, acted the miracle play assigned to each guild, in twenty four (according to Wright and Collier, and nine according to Ormerod) different parts of the town at the

(1) Archdeacon Rogers; *Collier on the Stage*, vol. ii., pp. 128, 146, 155, *et seq.* The Chester plays, edited by Wright. (Shakespeare Society.) p. 119. Mr. Markland printed one of these plays for the Roxburghe Club. Lyson and Ormerod also have notices of them.

same time. But the play of the Shepherds was here selected to do honour to an accidental visit. Whether because the painters and glaziers, to whom this piece was assigned, acted the best, or because it had somewhat of a local character, we cannot now discover. The primus Pastor says that no better Shepherd exists

From comely Conway unto Clyde,

and the tertius Pastor announces

And brave ale of Halton I have,
and whotte meate I hade to my hier,
a pudding may no man deprave,
and a jannocke of Lankestershire.

Until the appearance of the Star considerable licence was allowed to the Shepherds, and a bout at wrestling may have induced Lord Derby in 1581 to reproduce before Queen Elizabeth the feats of activity he admired at Chester in 1577. Lest the buffoonery should mingle with the part meant to be serious, the painters and glaziers are warned in the "bans":

See that Gloria in excelsis be songe merely.

On such an occasion the choir of the cathedral would lend assistance.

In 1583 Leicester, then chamberlain of Chester, and Lord Derby met in that city, and in Harl. MS. 2150. 6b. 152 b., we find "Mr. Thorp: a youth, (after Mayor, 1615.) speech to the Earl of Leicester 1583, made by Mr. ————kt, and gott by hart of the said Mr. Thorp, and said out of St. Brigett's church yarl: but it was not well liked off because he did direct it to Earl Derby, and having ended said 'God bless the

Earl of Derby." The speech is one of extravagant compliment, terminating with the following verses:

Whilst that y^e wilde bore mountaines,
 Whilst fishes foulds do crave,
 Whilst bee the time, and greshopper
 For foode the dove will have,
 Abides this honor shall Remaine,
 Thy name and praise shall stand,
 This Citie shall thy noble deeds
 Declare by sea and lande.

Henry Earl of Derby is seldom mentioned by verse writers. Thomas Newton⁽¹⁾ however, whose latinity excited the admiration of his contemporaries, lauded this Peer in certain "Encomia et Eulogia," annexed to "Leland's Encomia," edited by Newton, 1589.

"Ad illustrissimum, summaque spei Dominum Ferdinandum Stanueum, Dominum Strangueum, inelytiss. Comitum Darbiensis F. heredem:

Devincere tuos tibi Ferdinando Britannos
 Si cupis, iulietæ glutine andæctæ
 Heroa si mente velis ter magnus haberi,
 Et cunctis gratus vivere, ubique loci:
 Sint imitando illi celsi vestigia patris,
 Quo nil nobilius terra Britannia tulit."

"In effigiem honoratissimi et splendidiss: viri D. Henrici Comitum Darbiensis:

AD GUIL: HANFORDUM.

Stanueum Henricum, Comitum quem Darbia jaerat,
 Quem solidè exornat, Strangæa nobilitas,

(1) *Chaucer's Publ. Poet.* p. 285

Quem sibi depositeit regem Mona insula fortem,
 Quem decorat constans ordo periscelid's
 Quo Cestre-hyrie ac Leucastridos, ora superbit,
 Hæc Hanforde tibe denotat effigies."

From the annexed production of the same author, it may be gathered that the Earl of Derby was a patron of poetry.

"Ad longæ honoratissimum Henricum D. Henricum Darbie Comitem. Baronem Strangicum. Monæ Insule Regulum. inelytissimæ Periscelid's Militem, Dominum suum omni observantiâ colendum :

Qui titulis clares propri's, qui stemmate avito,
 Fulges, qui vera nobilitate nitas :
 Qui patriæ charus, Rezipie charus, amicis
 Charus, et Aonio clarus ubique gregi :
 Ista tibi tenui contexta poemate plectro
 Accipe quæso hilari Darbiee fronte comes,
 Quam tibi, non ulli debentur justius, ipsis
 Quod Cestre-hyriis nata fuere plagis,
 Illa tue fidei regio est commissa, tuoque
 Præside Regina subjacet imperio,
 Impulit hæc ratio regionis inæquis alumnum
 Qualiacunque mea hæc metra sacrare tibi."

Margaret Countess of Derby patronised two of the most remarkable authors of the period, Thomas Lupton, and Robert Greene. In their dedications,⁽¹⁾ the one praises her as "affable," the other as "courteous," and we accept the

(1) Lupton's dedication is: "To the Right Honourable, vertuous, and affable Lady Margaret Countess of Derby." It is followed by an address to the reader. The edition of 1586 has this imprint: "At London imprinted for Edward White dwelling at the little north door of St. Pauls at the signe of the Gunne Anno Dom: 1586."

concurrent testimony as a proof that they derived some benefit from their patroness, and that they did not vainly

Heap the shrine of luxury and pride
With incense kindled at the Muse's flame.

Of Lupton's biography we know nothing, and Langbaine cannot make this admission without misspelling his name, and showing that he never saw his works. Mr. Collier, (*On the Stage*, vol. ii., p. 247.) notices at length Lupton's *Moral. All for Money*, 1578. This writer dedicated to Lady Derby, during 1556, a quarto tract, entitled "A thousand notable things of sundry sortes, whereof some are wonderfull, some strange, some pleasant, divers necessary, a great sort profitable, and many very precious." Twelve lines of verse follow. This book is neither in the British Museum, nor the Bodleian Library, but the subsequent editions 1600, 1627, 1631, 1642 and 1675, are not uncommon; in these however, the dedication is laid aside, and the address to the reader preserved. Whether the patronage of Greene originated with Lady Derby, or with Lord and Lady Strange, we cannot determine. They all appear to have been his friends, although he wanted the thrift of Alleyne or Shakespeare to make that friendship effective. The circumstance of his plays after his death being acted by Lord Strange's servants, only proves that Henslow deemed them profitable. Greene dedicated to Lady Derby *The Myrrour of Modestie*, 12mo, 1584. (Dyce, vol. i., c. 11.) Greene is an important personage in literary history, from which he was withdrawn 1592. That this man, when beyond its reach, was attacked with all the abuse which the envy and malice of Gabriel Harvey could supply, and feebly

defended by the doubtful friendship of Nash — that his phraseology was sneered at as obsolete by Jonson, and his works stated to have been once welcomed by scholars, and then consigned to ballad stalls — is matter of history. Brydges is Greene's feeble apologist. (*Cont. Lit.*, vol. ii., p. 292.) and Dyce is altogether influenced by the criticisms to which we have alluded. But the solution of this violent treatment of one in his grave, by those who had lived with him, lies in the great popularity of Greene's works when patrons were as unimportant to their success as Thurlow to Cowper's, and criticism as little regarded as the Edinburgh Reviewer's on Byron. Of Greene's "Tullies Love," 1597, the public called for editions 1611, 1615, 1616, 1628, 1639: *A Looking Glass for London, and England*, 1594, 1598, 1602, 1617: and so of other works, see Dyce's Greene, vol. i. If the private character of poets could determine the fate of their labours, whose would stand? Shakespeare probably treated his wife worse than Greene did his: Milton decidedly had looser ideas on the matrimonial tie than our unfortunate poet: Kit Marlowe haunted taverns more, and finally to his cost: and as to Ben Jonson, who that enjoys his exquisite masques thinks the less of them, because the author was a quarrelsome, vain, overbearing, and learned bricklayer? After all, Nash and Harvey do not themselves occupy so high a position for truthfulness and temperate discussion as to give their statements weight. Greene was no common writer, and the *Greatsworth of Wit, bought with a Million of Repentance*, 1592, put forth immediately at his death, might have disarmed modern critics, as proving that his dissolute habits afflicted none so keenly as himself: and whatever crimes he may have committed, our sympathies are rather

with him than with his maligners, the wits and bullies who deserted him in death, and left him to perish in poverty and neglect.

Matthew Gwynne,⁽¹⁾ (Wood's *Athenæ*, vol. i., p. 513.) wrote, "Epicedium in obitum illustrissimi Herois Henrici Comitis Derbicensis." Oxon., 1593, 4to. This book is neither in the British Museum nor the Bodleian Library. The attachment of Ferdinando, fifth Earl of Derby (1593-1594) to literature, and his marriage (1579) to Alice the youngest of the six daughters of Sir John Spencer of Althorp, (she married Lord Ellesmere 1600, who died 1607, and the Countess, about 74 years of age, died January 26, 1635-6.) introduces the Stanleys in connexion with many celebrated writers of the Elizabethan age. Greene, Spencer, Nash, Harrington, Lok, Davies, Marston, and at a later period Milton, have placed on record their respect either for this Earl or Countess. Robert Greene dedicated to Lord Strange "*Ciceronis Amor, Tullii's Love*, wherein is discoursed the prime of Ciceroes youth, setting out in lively Portraictures how young Gentlemen that aime at Honour should leuell

(1) Born in London 1574; died 1627; scholar of St. John's, Oxen; M.D.; physician to Sir Henry Unton, Embassador in France. "In his younger days he was much admired for his skill and dexterity in poetry and in philosophical disputes, in humane and profane learning, but above all for modern languages." He was medical Professor of Gresham College.

Gwynne is the "*Li Canabdo*" of Fird's *Montaigne*, white being we believe the meaning of the Welch word Gwynne. We despair of finding the Epicedium on Earl Henry, unless we could procure a sight of a most rare book, bearing the following title, in which we suspect it exists: "*Iusta Funeraria Prolomæi Oxoniensis Thomæ Bodleii et varia in dem farinæ. Accelurit diversa Epicedia. Ej thelamia ut et Neronis Tragedia nova a Matt. Gwynne collecta*." Tacito, Sætonio, Dione, Seneca. Lond: 1605."

the end of their affections, holding the love of Country and friends in more extreme, than those fading blossoms of beautie that only feed the curious survey of the eye. A worke full of pleasure, as following Ciceroes veine, who was so conceited in his youth as grave in his age, profitable, as containing precepts worthy so famous an oratour. By Robert Greene in artibus Magister. *Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci.*" This book does not appear to have been printed until after the death both of poet and patron, 1597: the dedication is in a perfectly independent spirit, and very unlike those which "glorious John" used to write and sell. Greene has not here affected Euphuism, but there is considerable quaintness in his mode of addressing Lord Strange, and in explaining his object:

To the Right Honourable Ferdinando Stanley, Lord Strange, ennobled with all titles that Honour may afford, or vertue challenge, Robert Greene wisheth increase of vertuous and Lordly resolutions.

The Tripes, Right Honourable, engraven with Detur Sapienti, was by the oracle allotted to Socrates, Achilles' shield undatained with the Sword fell to Ulysses, Pallas had her Library and her Launce, and such as read Non ultra on Hercules Pillers pointed out the characters with their Speares. * * * * *

This considered, (Right Honourable,) having done my endeavour to pen downe the loves of Cicero, which Plutarch and Corneliu Nepos forgot in their writings, I presumed to present to your honour, not high written poems as Maro did to Augustus, but the fruits of well intended thoughts, as Callymachus' scholler did to Alexander, thinking nothing rare, or view worthy, sufficiently patronaged unless shrowded under the protection of so honourable a Mecenas. * * * Then, (Right Honourable,) if my worke treating of Cicero seem not fit for Cicero, as eclipsing the beauteous

shew of his eloquence with a harsh and unpolished stile, yet I hope your Honour will vouch for it only for that it is written of Cicero. Ennius laboured as hard in his rough poesies as Virgil in his high Poems, Phidias pencill (in his own conceits) was as sharp pointed as Pigmaleon's chasing tools, mean wits in their follies have as great paines with learned Clarkes in their fancies. Apollo yielded oracles, as wel to poore men for their prayers, as to Princes for their presents. Stars have their lights, and haire their shadows. Mean Scholers have high thoughts, though lowe fortunes. Thus persuaded, and emboldned, Right Honourable, I present this Pamphlet of Ciceroes Loves to your Lordship, resolved upon your courteous acceptance, that weighing the mind, not the matter, your Honour will say, if not Bucephalus yet a horse. And in this hope resting, I wish to your Lordship, as much Health, and happiness as your Honour can desire, or I imagine.

Your Lordships humble
devoted

Robert Greene.

Nash, at the conclusion of "The Supplication of Pierce Pennilesse," thus addresses Spenser, alluding to Ferdinando, then Lord Strange, under the designation of Amyntas:

But from generalI stonc let me digresse to my private experience, and with a tongue unworthy to name a name of such worthinesse, affectionately emblazon to the eyes that wonder, the matchlesse image of honour, and magnificent rewarder of vertue, Jove's Eagle-born Gained thrice noble Amyntas. In whose high spirit such a Deitie of wisdom appeereth, that if Homer were to write his Odyssea new, (where under the person of Ulysses he describeth a singular man of perfection in whom all ornaments both of peace and war are assembled in the height of their excellence,) he need no other instance to augment his conceit than the rare carriage of his honourable minde. Many writers, and good wits, are given to commend their patrons and benefactors, some for

prowesse, some for policy, others for the glory of their ancestry and exceeding bounty and liberality: But if my humble pen should ever enterprize such a continual talke of praise, I would embowell a number of those wind puff bladders, and dismiss their bad pates of the perriwigs poets have lent them, that so I might restore Gl'ry to his right inheritance, and these stol'n titles to their true owners. * * * * * None but desert should sit in Faimes name, none but Hector be remembred in the Chronicles of prowess, none but thou, most courteous Anytus, be the secret mistifull argument of the Knight of the Red-Crosse:

Oh decus atque ævi gloria summa tui.

And heere (Heavenly Spencer) I am most highly to accuse thee of forgetfulness, that in that honorable catalogue of our English heroes, which in such the conclusion of thy famous Fairy Queene, thou wouldest let so speciall a pillar of nobility passe unsaluted. The very thought of his derived descent, and extraordinary parts wherewith he astonisheth and draws all hearts to his love, would have inspired thy forewearyed pace with new fury to proceed to the next triumphs of the stately gollesse, but as I, in favor of so rare a scholler, suppose with this counsell he refrainde his mention in this first part, that he might with ful sayle proceed to his due commendations in the second. Of this occasion long since I happened to frame a sonnet, which being wholly intended to the reverence of this renowned Lord, (to whom I owe all the utmost powers of my love and dutye,) I meante heere for variety of stile to insert:

Perusing yester-night with idle eyes
The Fairy Singer's stately tuned verse,
And viewing after chapmen's wonted guise,
What strange contents the riddle did rehearse,
I streight leap't over to the latter end,
Where, like the quaint conceits of our time
That when their play is doone do fall to rime,
I found short lines to sundry nobles penn'd,

Whom he as speciall mirrours singled fourth
 To be the patrons of his poetry:
 I read them all and reverenc't their worth,
 Yet wond' red he left out thy memory,
 But therefore gese I he suppress thy name
 Because fewe words might not comprise thy fame.

Beare with me, gentle poet, though I conceive not a right of
 thy purpose, or be too inquisitive into the interior of thy obligation:
 for however my conjecture may misse the cushion, yet shall my
 speech savour of friend ship, though it be not ayded to judgment.
 Tantum hoc molier, in this short digression, to acquaint our
 countrey-men that live out of the echo of the Court with a common
 knowledge of his invaluable vertues, and shew my selfe thankful
 (in some part) for benefits received, which, since words may not
 countervayle, that are the usual life-labour of every idle discourser.
 I conclude with that of Ovid,

Accipe, per longos tibi qui deserveat annos,

Accipe, qui para novit amare fide.

And if my zeale and duty (though all to meane to please) may
 by any industry be reformed to your gracions liking, I submit the
 simplicity of my endeavours to your service, which is all my per-
 formance may profer or my ability performe:

Præbeat Aleinot poma benignus æger

Officium pauper numeret, studiumq; fidemq;

and so I breake off this endlesse argument of speech abruptlie.

Spenser delayed attending to this exhortation until it
 was only left him to lament the death of so accomplished
 a friend.

There also is— ah no! he is not now!)

But since I said he is, he quite is gone,

Anyntas quite is gone, and lies full low,

Having his Amaryllis left to mone:

Help, O ye shepherds! help ye all in this,
 Help Amaryllis this her loss to mourn;
 Her loss is yours, your loss Amyntas is,
 Amyntas, flower of shepherd's pride forlorn.
 He, whilst he lived, was the noblest swain
 That ever piped on an oaten quill:
 Both did he other, which could pipe, maintain,
 And eke could pipe himself with passing skill.

1721639

— *Colin Clout's come home again*,
 p. 137.

The writings of Lord Strange thus alluded to have not been discovered. That his works are contained in the collection of "English Poems, entitled "Belvedere, or the Garden of the Muses," imprinted London, by F. K., for Hugh Aspley, and in a second edition of the same book, published 1610, the table of contents informs us, where his name occurs with those of the most celebrated men of his time: but the productions of Lord Strange are undistinguished by any known signature, and we are unwilling to allow the praises of Spenser as applicable to the long pastoral ballad which Sir John Hawkins has inserted in the Antiquarian Repertory under the whimsical appellation of "A Sonnet." Mr. Parke, however, admits the authenticity of this production, and the reader may be desirous to become acquainted with its merits:

I.

There was a Shepherd that did live
 And held his thoughtes as lighe
 As were the mounts whereon his sheepe
 Did hourly feed him by.

II.

He in his youth, his tender youth,
That was unapte to keep
Or hopes, or fancies, or loves, or cares,
Or thoughts, but of his sheep,

III.

Did with his dog as Shepherds do,
For Shepherds full in wit,
Devise him sports, though foolish sports,
Yet sports for Shepherds fit.

IV.

Who, free from cares, his only care
Was where his flock did go,
And that was much to him that knew
No other cares but so.

V.

This boy, which yet was but a boy
And so desires were hid,
Did grow a man, and men must love,
And love the Shepherd did.

And thus this "Sonnet" proceeds through thirty-five stanzas.

In Burhill's⁽¹⁾ invitatory paucyric addressed to James

(1) Wood gives an account of Burhill. He was born at Dymock, Gloucestershire, in 1572; admitted scholar of Corpus Christi 1587; had a Parsonage in Norfolk, and a Church at Hereford, and proceeded D.D. He was a person of great reading, and profound judgement, was well versed in the Fathers and scholastic divinity, learned, and well grounded in the Hebrew tongue, an exact disputant, and in his younger years a noted Latin poet." (Vol. ii. p. 10.) He was a personal friend of Sir Walter Raleigh's. Burhill died at his living, Northwood, in Hereford, 1641.

the First. (1603.) and describing the proceedings of Queen Elizabeth at Oxford, the name of Lord Strange occurs :

Item all proceses immortalump e secutæ
 Dulce decus. Fernandus ovans Darventia proles
 Adluit. et letum de se spem nescius auxit
 Sed vicina caput tristi mors auhbit umbra.

From the mention of this nobleman in the *Polimanteia*,⁽¹⁾ it is probable there exist verses recording his virtues and accomplishments, besides those to which allusion has here been made. "Then," says the anonymous author of that work, "take a tragic style, and mourne for the trullie Hon^{ble} Ferdinando's death: whom, though scattered teares have honoured in some few sonnets, yet he is a true wortheie object of everlasting mourning for the sacred Muses, who, languishing with late sorrow for the father's death, want strength and leasure to weepe for the sonnes eclipse: honour him, sweet daughters children, who living honoured you: and control with the Muses pen the repining fates so farre as to give him immortalie and cause him live to despight them." Thus wept you for famous Sydnay, my brave Soldier: and men Hon. are onely fit to be mourned for by your Muses."—*Brit. Bibl.* vol. i. p. 281.

Nor was the body of this peer less the object of the admiration of that immortal band whose labours have given such lustre to the "golden days" of the Virgin Queen. Spenser, in the dedication of the "Teares of the Muses," claims relationship with Lady Strange:—"But the causes for which

(1) Printed at Cambridge 1595, and dedicated to Robert, Earl of Essex.

(2) Spenser asserted that he was related to the Althorp family. No doubt such affinity would have been mutually acceptable, but it was never shown how it existed.

ye have deserved of me to be honoured, (if honour it be at all.) are both your particular bounties, and also some private bands of affinity, which it hath pleased your Ladyship to acknowledge."

Three of the daughters of Sir John Spencer are thus mentioned by Spenser: Amaryllis being the Countess of Derby, the connexion with the Altherp family is again claimed, and stated to be a near one:

Ne less praiseworthy are the sisters three,
The honour of the noble Familie,
Of which I meanest boast myself to be,
And most, that unto them I am so nie.
Phyllis, Charyllis, and sweet Amaryllis,
Phyllis the faire is eldest of the three,
The next to her is bountifull Charyllis,
But th' youngest is the highest in degree.

* * * *

But Amaryllis, whether fortunate,
Or else unfortunate may I aread,
That freed is from Cupid's yoke by fate,
Since which she doth new bands adventure dread:
Shepherd, whatever thou hast heard to be
In this or that prais'd diversely apart,
In her thou may'st them all assembled see
And seal'd up in the treasure of her heart.

Lok,⁽¹⁾ in his "Christian Passions, contained in 200 Sonnets," 1597, addresses a Sonnet to this lady:

When this my bold attempt to mind I call,
Who Phaeton like would Phoebus chariot guide,
From doubtfull thoughts into dispaire I fall
How such cleare light my weake sight may abide;

(1) *W. ed's. Arden ed.*, vol. i. p. 289; *Ritson*, p. 269.

From one presumption into more I slide,
 And give the raigne so much to rash desire
 That I make publick what I ought to hide,
 And steeke my sanctuary in that heavenly fire
 Whose image of perfection I admire
 In our rare goddesse, wisdoms clearest light,
 Whose grate aspect my many wants require
 To cleaue the clouds which blind my judgments sight;
 And such faire stars as you, who influence have
 Of her bright beames, to give some light I crave.

The unlucky Harrington⁽¹⁾ thus swells the general tribute "in prayse of the Countesse of Darby, married to the Lord Chancellor"—(Book iii. Epigram 47):

This noble Countesse liue in my yeeres
 With Darby, one of England's greatest peeres,
 Fruitfull and faire and of so cleare a name
 That all this region marvel'd at her fame;
 But this brave peere extinct by his stined fete,
 She stayd, ah too too long, in willdowes state,
 And in that state tooke so sweet state upon her,
 All eares, eyes, tongues, heard, saw, and told, her honour;
 Yet finding this a saying full of veritie,
 Tis hard to have a patent of prosperitie,
 She found her wisest way, and safe, to deale,
 Was to consort with him that keepe the seale.

Nor was John Davies of Hereford wanting amongst

(1) The title of the book is, "The most Elegant and Witty Epigrams of Sir John Harrington, Knight, digested into four books,"

"Fama bonum quo non felicius ullum,"

printed 1618, 1625, 1634. Harrington was born 1561, and died 1612. Jonson said of his Epigrams that they were narrations not epigrams. Ritson, *Libl. Poët.* p. 236.

those who paid homage to Lady Derby. Wood affirms that Davies first tried poetry and then sought a livelihood as a writing master, and that he came to London professing the second art: but Davies unquestionably practised both in London, making the inferior occupation of the bard subsidiary to the glories of calligraphy. He is pronounced by Wood the greatest master of his pen that "England in his age beheld; first for fast writing, fair writing which looked as if it had been printed, close writing, various writing as Secretary, Roman, Court, and Text hand. Sometimes he made pretty excursions into poetry, and could flourish matter with his fancy as well as letters with his pen." The following sonnet from *"The Scurge of Folly,"* p. 253, is rebolent of the writing master. Would that we could do justice to Davies, and with clear sweeping flourishes give the lineaments of Lord and Lady Derby to which the sonnet so modestly refers:

"He only tricked
The outward lines to make it somewhat like."

Then the allusion to the writing master's dependence on his patron ought to be written in fine court hand; and the last line with the complimentary pun on *all* hees (Alice), who but Davies could properly set it forth or "draw a line to point at it"!

*To the right noble and most gracefull Lady Alice, Countess of Derby,
my good Lady, and Mistresse.*

The duty, zeale, and strict respect I owe
To you great Lady Mistresse; and the vowe
I with my soule have made, that while my pen
Hath power to paint the ornament of men

It never shall surprise to hime you forth
 As a rare *Jewell* multiplying the woorth
 Of my bette Lord, sole Master of mine all.
 But sitke I cannot paint the *Principall*
 According to the Life, He on ly tricke
 The outward lites to make it somewhat like,
 And yet I cannot, for the same are such
 As are too deely for my cunning's touch,
 Then will I draw a line to point at it,
 Look World, tis SHEE whose ALL is Exquis-ite!

In 1609 appeared "The Holy Rood; or Christ's Crosse,
 containing Christ Crucified, described in Speaking Picture,
 By John Davies.⁽¹⁾

And who in Passion sweetly sing the same
 Doe glorifie their owne in Jesus NAME.

Crux Christi clavis Cœli.

London:

Printed for N. Butler,
 1609."

The dedication is, "To the Right honourable, well accomplished Lady, Alice Countesse of Derby, my good Lady, and Mistress; And to her three Right noble Daughters by Birth, Nature, and Education, the Lady Elizabeth Countess of Huntington, the Lady Frances Egerton, and the Lady Ann, Wife to the truly noble Lord Gray Chandois that now is, be all comfort whensoever CROST."

(¹) Davies was brought up at Oxford, and died 1618. Ritson says he printed nothing before 1600. Robert Burlill, being a Canon of Hereford, wrote some commendatory verses to Davies's *Microcosmus*, in which he wonders why "Davies should stile himself of Hereford, as if Oxford was a disgrace to him."

In one part of this dedication Davies takes Harrington's vein, and grows unsavoury; speaking of the Cross, he says:

Then, Ladies, of this tree embracers be,
Which when you die wil make you more than live.
When Sensuall Pleasure filled hath a cuppe
Of her sweete Liquor for you, sith too blame,)
Stirre it about before you drinke it up
With some parte of this Tree to purge the same,
Els like sweet Poison it will hane the soul;
But highly, lowly, Ladies, (good as great.)
Your great Mind's Powers, (born great,) can soon controule
Main pleasures siege and so their spoiles defeate.

We think that Davies presented these poems written and enriched with ail sorts of strokes, and that the printing them was an *arrière pensée*, and perhaps an unwise one.

In 1602 Lord Ellesmere purchased Harefield in Middlesex, and in the autumn of that year Queen Elizabeth visited the Countess of Derby there, when a masque was performed, which, however, contains no allusions to the noble hostess.⁽¹⁾

Jonson's masque of "Blackness" was performed at Court 1604-5; and Gifford affirms that Alice, Lady Derby, was one of the masquers, with her face blackened to resemble a negro, and that after dancing on shore, this lady and others "danced with their men several measures, and corantoos."⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Lodge's *Illustrations*, vol. iii. p. 132; *Talbot Papers*, vol. iv. p. 43; Nichols's *Progresses of Queen Elizabeth*. We have also a modern copy of *The Masque* in 4to.

⁽²⁾ Jonson's *Works*, vol. vii. p. 19. Nichols copies Gifford, *Progresses of Queen Elizabeth the First*, vol. i. p. 458.

He then proceeds: "For this celebrated lady, who greatly delighted in these elegant and splendid exhibitions, Milton wrote his *Amores*, which are a mere cento from our author's (Jonson) masques, of which in fact it is a very humble imitation." There were two Lady Derbys at this time, the Dowager Countess, aged about 44, and the wife of Edward William, hardly 30. They both rode at James's procession in 1603, and then and afterwards were distinguished as the old and young Countess, (1) the latter was a favourite of James, the niece of Salisbury, and a young and volatile frequenter of the Court: and unless there is direct evidence to its support, we would reject Gifford's conjecture, and make the younger Countess the Lady Derby who acted in the masques of Blackness in 1605, of Beauty 1608, and of The Queens 1609.

In August 1607, on the occasion of her visit to her daughter, a masque⁽²⁾ was performed in honor of the Dowager Countess of Derby, entitled "The Lord and Lady Huntington's entertainment of their Right Noble Mother, Alice Countess of Derby, the first night of her honour's arrival at the house of Ashby." The dedication is laconic:

To the Right Noble Ladye, Alice, Countess Dowager of Derby.

Madam,

If my slight muse may sute your noble merit
My hopes are crown'd, and I shall cheere my spirit;

(1) Ibid. pp. 174, 195, 318.

(2) Ibid. vol. ii. pp. 143, 148; Introduction, *Collier's Actors*; Langbain, p. 247; *Genl. Magazine*, 1791, vol. i. p. 17. Todd has printed the masque from the Bridgewater MS.

But if my weake quill droopes, or seemes unfitt,
 Tis not your want of worth, but mine of wit;
 The servant of your honor'd virtues.

JOHN MARSTON.⁽¹⁾

An antique gate "suddenly erected" in the park at Ashby was adorned with devices expressive of satisfaction at Lady Derby's approach. "Neere the gate an old Inchantress in crimson velvet, with pale face, black haire, and dislyking countenance, affronted her Ladishipp, and thus rudely saluted her:"

Woman, Lady, Princesse, Nymph, or Goddess,
 For more you are now, and you seem no less,
 Stay, attempt not passage through this port,
 Here the pale Lord of Sadness keeps his court.

The Enchantress then states that she waits upon "Pale Melancolie, and Desolation," who have seized that house:

'Tis only one can their sad bondage break,
 Whose worth I may admire, not dare to speak;
 She's so complete, that her much honour'd state,
 Gives fortune virtue, makes virtue fortunate,
 As one in whom three rare mixt virtues set
 Sene seldom joyned, Fortune, Beauty, Wit;
 To this choice Lady, and to her dere state,
 All hearts do open, as alone this gate.
 She only drives away dull Saturn hence,
 She whom to praise I need her eloquence.

The speech thus ended: presently Saturn issued from

(¹) John Marston's *Satires* were burnt by the hangman 1599, and were reprinted 1761. — Ritson, p. 277.

forth the port, and, curiously beholding the Countess, spoke thus :

Peace, stay, it is, it is, it is even She !
 Haile, happy honours of nobilitye !
 Did ever Saturn see, or near see such ?
 What should I style you ?

* * *

I give up all to joy and to delight,
 And now pass on all happy making dame.

Milton, then a young man, wrote the *Areosles*⁽¹⁾ between 1632 and 1635, whilst residing near Harefield. The Countess was then upwards of 72 years old. The masquers, who were "some noble persons of her family," and perhaps the same with those who, on Sept. 29, 1634, acted *Comus* at Ludlow, moved "toward the seat of state" on which the Countess was sitting.

Look, Nymphs and Shepherds, look,
 What sudden blaze of majesty
 Is that which we from hence desery,
 Too divine to be mistook :

This, this is she
 To whom our vows and wishes bend ;
 Here our solemn search hath end.

(1) Gifford correctly enough claims for Jonson's masques high praise ; but the great critic has disfigured his valuable edition of Jonson, by seeking to place the poet on that elevation which he so fiercely, and so ineffectually, claimed during life. The *Areosles* has a few passages, which Mr. Todd points out, borrowed from Jonson. It was the precursor of *Comus*, which we prefer to the *Sad Shepherd*, or to any of those masques in which, as Guizot remarks, Jonson's strength lies.

Fame that, her high worth to raise,
 Seem'd erst so lavish and profuse,
 We may justly now accuse
 Of detraction from her praise;
 Less than half we find express,
 Envy bid conceal the rest.

Mark what radiant state she spreads,
 In circle round her shining throne,
 Shooting her beams like silver threads:
 This, this is she alone,
 Sitting like a goddess bright,
 In the centre of her light.

Might she the wise Latona be,
 Or the tower'd Cybele,
 Mother of a hundred Gods?
 Juno dares not give her odds;
 Who had thought this clime had held
 A deity so unparallel'd?

Thomas St. Leger and Abraham Darcie jointly produced certain *Funebria* upon the death of Lady Huntingdon, and amidst black pages, death's heads, and all the signs of profound mourning, they have inserted a miniature painting of Alice, Countess of Derby, with a poem celebrating her praises.⁽¹⁾

(1) This book was bought by Lord Stanley at Mr. Midgley's sale, April 1823, for £30, and is thus described in the catalogue: "Honor's and Virtue's Monument erected in perpetual and noble remembrance of the Right Honorable and high born Lady, the Lady Elizabeth, Countess of Huntingdon, youngest daughter and co-heiress of the most honourable and worthy Prince Frederick Earl of Derby, Viscount Kenton, Baron Stanley of Latham, Sergeant at Knockin, Mohun of Dunster, Lacyn, Woodville, Bassett, &c., King of the Isle of Man, and Great Grandchild to King

The adventures of William, Earl of Derby, who comes next in succession,(-) are said to have afforded a favourite theme to the writers of ballads. A Garland, adorned with his name, was reprinted (1814) at Leeds. The original edition had a wood-cut of its hero, with a staff under his arm, a gaily cocked hat upon his head, and one arm extended, but whether to point to a ship in the distance, or for the purpose of giving additional emphasis to the song he is evidently singing, is doubtful. The superscription to this effigy runs thus: "Sir William Stanley's Garland: containing his twenty-one years travels through most parts of the world, and his safe return to Latham Hall." Although the writer commits the grossest anachronisms, yet his stanzas are not devoid of interest:

Then Sir William took leave of Latham Hall,
And of all that in lovely Latham lay,
And then he prepares him to the seas,
To travel in some strange Country.

Henry the Seventh, and late wife to the Right Honorable Henry Earle of Huntingdon, Lord Hastings, Hungerford, Botreaux, Moulins, and Moules, by whom she left an honorable offspring. She departed this transitory life ever most gloriously with Christ, the of Januarii, A°. 1639, in the Whitechurche, London, most peaceably, religiously, and goddily. Written (in verse,) and consecrated to her immortal memory by Tho: Saint Leger, M^r. of Arts and Abbr. Darcie, Gent."

Abraham Darcie is probably the translator of the "*Annales of Queen Elizabeth*." The miniature, of which we have a copy, represents an old person with features of great refinement and the remains of beauty.

(-) Earl of Derby from 1594 to 1642, aged about 80 when he died. He married Jan. 26. 1594-5, the Lady Elizabeth Vere, daughter of the seventeenth Earl of Oxford. She died March 11. 1626-7, aged 51, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

But as soon as Sir William was got on ship-board,
He to himself did secretly say,
I'll make a vow to the living Lord
That three seven years I'll make away.

And accordingly the noble wanderer traverses countries the
most remote,

gathers Arctic ice
And melts it in the Zone.

France, Spain, Barbary, and even Russia, are visited :

Likewise to fair Jerusalem
Where our blessed Saviour Christ did die,
He asked them if it was so,
They answered and told him, Aye,
This is the tree the Jews then said,
Whereon the Carpenter's son did die,
That was my Saviour, Sir William said,
For sure he died for the sins of me.

Thence passing into Turkey, the knight is sent to prison,
and required to apostatize from his faith :

Before I'll forsake my living Lord,
My blessed Saviour, and sweet Lamb,
Sweet Jesus Christ that died for me,
I'll die the worst death that e'er did man ;
Farewel Father, and Farewel Mother,
And Farewel all friends at Latham Hall,
Little do they know I am a Prisoner,
Or how I'm subject unto thrall.

Released from durance through the intercession of a lady,
who presents him with five hundred pounds, Sir William

proceeds to Greenland: thence transports himself to Holland, where he remains three years, and at the conclusion of the appointed time passes into his native country, and

Standing bare at Latham Gate
Desiring to speak with the old Earl,
The porter thrust him back again
Much like unto a dogged Churl.

He is, however, finally recognized, and received by his father as the heir to the family honours and estates.

It may be proper to observe that, in 1593, this Sir William was Governor of the Isle of Man, whilst his father, Earl Henry, died 1593, and his elder brother in 1594.⁽¹⁾

The lines of Bishop Stanley, the recognized chronicle of the family, were, in the reign of James the First, re-written and amplified by R. G., a clergyman of Chester. This production is amongst the Coles MSS., and is entitled "The Honour of Cheshier and Lancashire, containing the Legend of the Right Honourable House of Stanleyes, Earles of Darby, written at first by the Right Reverend Father in God, James Stanley, a son of that Honourable House, then Bishop of Man, and now renewed by an old Servant of the same coate and Family." (Additional MSS., 5860, p. 323.) The dedication is too curious to be omitted:

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

To the Right Honorable William, Earle of Darby, my Lord and Master
Right Honorable,

Since it pleased your Honour very graciously to acknowledge me and my Service in a reverend Assembly in the Cittie of

(1) The objection made against this ballad, that it is not an original copy,

Chester, (for which and infinite other favours, I have sent Millions of Prayers to my God for your Prosperitie,) and besides I have since that Tyme broken many sleepes, and stolen many Flowers from my more serious Studies to show my Thankfulness, and could find no better way than to revive that ancient Rumbler of your Ancestors, which is esteemed as a relique among your Countrymen, and to recollect it into divers sorts of English verses, to make it more common, (for it is almost out of Date,) and more pleasant to our present Age, which I did, rather because I know our Chroniclers of elder Times omitted many excellent Poems of Honor performed by your Ancestors, and stowed their volumes with wapping Tales of my Lord Maiors Horse. And another motive set me on work, because I see every man publish the honour of his Mr. in print. Then why should not I in myne old daies, although the sunne of my life hath passed his meridian and I am now in the afternoone of myne age, before the night of nature overtake me eternize the deeds and acts of your honourable Family among the fresh brains of this hot spirited times, since I am bounden to your Honour for all the estate I have? I doubt not of detraction, since no man can stand without the shor of galling tongues. For could a man wryte in paper made of the turninge leaves of heaven, I meane the clouds, or speak with the tongue of angels, some flowing fellow that looks asquint at all men's works but his owne would play the criticke, and, though a saint do sing, yet snakes will hisse because they are full of poyson. But a wise man with a feather will wipe of all. I know that wryting is a living preservative for the deathfull tombs of nobility, whereby they walke, as it were, alive upon the bosome of death. I know that some great men have buried in

would be of little weight, provided its contents proved its antiquity, which is not the case. Some records that one hundred and fifty years ago, Earl William was traditionally held to have been a great traveller, and that by his great grandson. That this William, his father living, was abroad, is shown by a letter of Mr. Faunt, in Birch's *Elizabeth*.

their filthie sepulchres of erth the whole bodies and soules of Honour, Vertue, and Piety.

I will therefore turne my paper to christall, from whence no time shall wee out the becomen figure of their graces, and revive that which a Reverend Father of your own bloude and my own coate wrote long since. And if any tax mee, being a divine, for writing in this vaine, I answere that I have the Hol. Writ for my warrant, as they may read Ecclesiasticus xlv. from the first verse unto the sixteenth verse, especially verse 7. Verse 7. Their men were honourable in their generations, and well reported of in their times. 8. They left a name behind them so that their praise shall be spoken of, &c. And in Hebrews xii. where a whole catalogue of patriarchs and worthy men is rehearsed.

Let yt please your Honour to read yt, and in yt my love and desire to doe your service, and then passe yt in common with the oulde coppie, which I presume will be very acceptable to your countrymen. Or, if yt please you, sacrifice yt in some winter's evening to the fire, for I tooke this paine for you and none but you

"Quos munibus propitiis duxit cordata Minerva."

In which doing, howsoever I speed, I have been taught long since,

"Principibus placuisse viris non ultima laus est."

If only your Honour or your true favourers lyke yt, I shall bee happie, and proceed in the 2nd Parte, from the Lord Edwards to this day, in a more stately humour in prose, wherein I shall perfect a chronicle of your noble House which shall keepe you honourably fame to succeeding ages, wherein, if your Honour encourage mee, it shall not be long a doing; otherwyse I will burn my notes, and let yt rest as it is. For in this I have followed the ancient history only; but, in the other, true observations and our chronicles of purest times. And so, in all humbleness, I rest your Honour's old and faithfull servant, bound till death.

"An Argument" is appended to this dedication, containing a slight sketch of the pedigree of the Stanleys: and

then the Poem is introduced, consisting of some thousand lines, of which the following may be taken as a specimen :

The Earle of Darby tooke the crowne
 And set it on the head
 Of Henry Richmond,—proclaim'd him King
 In the Usurper's stead :
 Sir William Standley, brother to
 The Earl, gave his assistance,
 And through the army led him King
 Without any resistance.
 Many faire Nobles of the Bloud
 That day gave their best ayd,
 And full of honour for their actes
 They march't with arms displaid.
 Lord Strange strangely seap't with life :
 Henry the Seventh now
 Reigus England's King, to whom all loyall
 Hearts and knees doe bowe.
 He wooes and wins, and takes to wife
 Elizabeth, the heire
 Of Edward late the Fourth, a dame
 Both vertuous and faire.
 And here of Lancaster and Yorke
 The ancient quarrell ends ;
 The Roses Red and White are joyn'd,
 All Royal Blouds are frends.

There is a metrical addition to this work, entitled "A most memorable Repetition of the Honours and Manners of the thrice noble Earle before nam'd." This is evidently a paraphrase of some old ballad, and, as describing the ancient House of Lathom, is not without its value. Pennant inserted extracts from these verses in his *Tour to Alston Moor*.

We next come to a work, entitled "The Second Set of Madrigals and Pastorals, apt for Violls and Voyces, newly composed by Francis Pilkington Bachelor of Music and Lutenist, and Chaunter to the Cathedral in Chester. London 1624: dedicated to Sir Peter Leigh of Lyme, Knt. The volume contains twenty-six songs, and a pavin made for the orpharion by the Right Honourable William Earl of Darbie, and by him consented to be in my booke placed."⁽¹⁾

Earl William⁽²⁾ was chamberlain of Chester, and obtained a grant of the office to his son and himself and to the survivor. 1 Jac. 1.: Earl James was displaced 1647: and thus the Stanley rule in Chester survived the acting of mysteries and triumphs, and the choir with its celebrated performers, and even saw the heralds and genealogists, the Chaloners

(1) Francis Pilkington of Lincoln College, Oxford, admitted Bachelor of Music 1595, and of the Church at Chester. Wood says he was father or near of kin to Thomas Pilkington, one of the musicians of Queen Henrietta Maria, and celebrated in the poems of Sir Aston Cockayne. Francis Pilkington published his first book of songs 1605. Thomas died about 1660, and is buried in Worcesterminster. Besides an epitaph, Sir Aston Cockayne wrote some strange punning lines upon his friend:

But to what end praise I his flats, since that
He is grown one himself and now I - flat?

William Webbe in 1624 wrote verses in praise of Pilkington's book. There is also a William Webbe with the Lawes (one of whom Milton has given to fame), in King Charles's service, publishing in 1650 a little book, "Select Ayres," &c.; and in 1663 we meet again with Webbe. Music seems then to have descended from father to son, and musicians to have been a caste.

(2) It was during the life of this Earl of Derby that Shakespeare, in the tragedies of the second and third parts of King Henry VI. and of Richard III., introduced members of the House of Stanley amongst the characters represented, and that Ford in the play of Perkin Warbeck described the fate of Sir William Stanley.

and Holmes, in abasement. There was little left in Chester in 1647 of all that once rendered a connexion with that city so dear to the old Stanleys.

We have now to connect the greatest of poets with the family of the Earls of Derby, and, although we are sceptical as to the correctness of the date here assigned to Sir Thomas Stanley's death, which was not on the tomb, we give the passage from Drake's *Shakespeare and his Times* (vol. ii., p. 600), remarking that this knight, after narrowly escaping the fate of the Nortons or of Westmoreland in 1576, lived in prosperity and was magnificently entombed:

Nor is this the only epitaph which Shakespeare is said to have written; two others have been ascribed to him — one of which, as being on the authority of Sir William Dugdale, a testimony, observes Mr. Malone, sufficient to ascertain its authority, and preserving besides strong internal marks of being genuine, requires admission into our text.

It is written in commemoration of Sir Thomas Stanley Knight, who died some time after the year 1600, and is thus described by Sir William Dugdale. "On the north side of the chancel of Tongue Church, in the county of Salop, stands a very stately tomb, supported with Corinthian columns. It hath two figures of men in armour thereon lying — the one below the arches and columns, and the other above them — and this epitaph upon it:

'Thomas Stanley Knight, second son of Edward Earl of Derby, &c. These following verses were made by William Shakespeare the late famous tragedian.

(Written upon the east end of the tomb) —

Aske who lyes here, but do not weepe,
He is not dead, he doth but sleepe;
This stony register is for his bones,
His fame is more perpetual than these stones.

And his own goodness, with himself being gone,
Shall live, when earthly monument is none.

(*Written upon the west side thereof*) —

Not monumental stone preserves our fame,
Nor skye-aspiring pyramids our name;
The memory of him for whom this stands
Shall outlive marble and defacer's hands:
When all to Time's consumption shall be given,
Stanley, for whom this stands, shall stand in heaven.¹²

James, Earl of Derby (born 1605, succeeded 1642, died 1651), was in religion puritanically inclined, and patronised Hinde, Herle, Goe, Ambrose, &c.; he affected, nevertheless, the magnificent living of his ancestor, Earl Edward. We have but faint traces of the seventh Earl's connexion with men of letters. Thomas May, who represented Liverpool from 1614 to 1623, is probably the poet and historian. Weaver in 1631 sent this Lord a copy of the "Monuments." Lord Derby wrote in a very powerful manner, and with a gravity and simplicity which is most attractive: yet it was not always so. In 1636 Lord Strange acted at Court in Jonson's *Lord's Triumph through Callipolis*, being one of fifteen lovers who ranged themselves "seven and seven on a side, with each a Cupid before him with a lighted torch." The King being in the centre; the seventh lover, the Secure, was acted by Lord Strange; the ninth, the Substantial, by his brother, Sir Robert Stanley. — (Jonson's Works, vol. viii., p. 93.)

In the same year and place, by the same author, was produced the masque of *Chlorindia*; and Charlotte de la Tremouille, Lady Strange, was one of the fourteen nymphs

who sate round the Queen in the bower, and whose dresses of white embroidered with silver are described.⁽¹⁾

There are two metrical notices of this illustrious peer and his heroic lady, (born *circa* 1603, married 1626, died 1663:) the one contained in a book published 1713, entitled *The History of the Grand Rebellion*, embellished with heads; and the other inserted in Seacome's *History of the House of Stanley*. The following is the dedication of "*Heddomada Sacra, a Weekes Devotion: or Seven Poeticall Meditations upon the Second Chapter of St. Matthews Gospel: written by Roger Cocks.*" printed 1630:

The Right Honourable James, Lord Strange.

Poetry, noble Lord, in these loose times
Wherein men rather love than loath their crimes,
If hand in hand with Pety she goe,
(Though without blushing she her face may show,
Finds but cold welcome. Such things only take
As flatter Greatnesse, or fond Fancie make

(¹) William Abington or Hedington (born either 4th or 5th November 1605, died 1659): Nash's *History of the Peerage*, vol. i., p. 588; Wood's *Athenæ*; Dodd's *Church History*, vol. li., p. 422; *Ches. Lit.* vol. viii., pp. 227, 337;) in *Castara* (London, 8vo., 1635), celebrating the attractions of his wife, Lucia Herbert, daughter of the first Lord Powis, thus writes:

Sometimes my swelling spirits I prepare
To speake the mighty Percy, nearest heire
In merit as in blood to Charles the great;
Then Dalry's worth and Greatnesse to repeat,
Or Morley's honour, or Montague's fame,
Whose valour lives eternis'd in his name:
But while I think to sing those of my blood
Or my Castara's, Love's unruly flood
Breaks in and beares away whatever stood
Built by my busie fancy on the sands.

— *Castara*, 3rd edition, 1640, p. 113.

A baad to base delight; yet graver eyes
 No sacred lines, though rudely drawne, despise:—
 And such are yours. Upon this worke of mine
 Vouchsafe to let them fall, or rather shine;
 With kind acceptance do but digne to grace it,
 And Envie shall want power to deface it.

The couplet thrown into the coffin of this Earl is no exaggerated panegyric upon his glorious though unfortunate career:

Wit, Bounty, Courage, three in one lie dead,
 A Stanley's hand, Vere's heart, and Cecil's head.

"An Epithalamium upon the nuptials of the princely pair, Henry Lo. Marquis of Dorchester, and the Lady Katherine, daughter to the late heroic Earl of Derby, in a dialog 'twixt Philemon and Sylvius."⁽¹⁾ will conclude this imper-

(1) The work in which this epithalamium occurs is mentioned in the *Censura Literaria* (vol. iii., p. 259) as of great rarity, and the title is thus set forth: "Poems upon divers emergent occasions, by James Howell, Esq., London, printed by James Cottrell, and are to be sold in Exchange Alley, near Lombard-street, 1664." 8vo. pp. 127. This is probably a second edition, as the book from which the above extract was made bears the following title: "Poems on several choice and various subjects, occasionally composed by an eminent author, collected and published by Serjt. Major P[ayne] Fisher], London, printed by James Cottrell, and are to be sold by S. Speed, at the Rainbow in Fleet-street, near the Inner Temple Gate, 1663." The work is dedicated to Dr. Kirz, Bishop of Chichester, by Fisher the editor, who has also added a preface and certain recommendatory Latin verses, concluding "sic raptum cecinit — P. PISCATOR."

This Fisher, Wood says, called himself poet laureate to Oliver (vol. ii., p. 381). Howell was born 1594, brought up at Hereford school, went to Oxford 1610, and died 1666. Wood speaks of him more contemptuously than he deserves (vol. ii., p. 381). Howell was M. P. for Richmond 1627,

fect attempt at an enumeration of the metrical pieces written in honour of the Stanleys, Earls of Derby, during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries:

PHELEMON.

What object's that which I behold
Dazzling my eyes with gems and gold?
Her face, methinks, darts such a ray
That adds more brightness to the day;
Her breath perfumes the place; her curls and hair,
Like Indian spice, aromatise the air.
A sparkling white and black breaks from her sight
Like to the diamond's redoubling light;
As she doth walk, the very ground and stone
Turn to field argent which she treads upon:
A mortal sure she cannot be,
But some transcending deity.
My dearest Sylvius, pray unfold,
Who's that rare creature I behold?

SYLVIVS.

She is a princess and a bride,
Goes to the Temple to be ride
In nuptial bonds: her stars will not permit
That at the vestal fires she longer sit;
She's Derby's royal blood, Derby le Gran,
* * * * *
She of the Princely Orange is a branch;
Imp'd on the high Trimoullan stem of France;
Two of the fairest kingdoms strove and tride
Their utmost to complete this lovely bride.
'Tis she which makes, twixt gems and gold,
That constellation you behold.

and we suppose supplied Lord Strafford with foreign intelligence, these letters bearing his signature. — as Garrard wrote those on domestic occurrences.

Philemon then makes a similar enquiry respecting the bridegroom, and, having received a glowing description of the merits of the Marquis, he protests that his brain is heated "with an unusual fire;" and so commences "An Hymenaeum or Bridal Sonnet, consisting of four stanzas, and to be sung by three voices, according to a choyce air set thereupon by Mr. William Webb."

FOURTH STANZA.

(Chorus with a soprano and alto note.)

May all the elements conspire
To make them blessed in their desire;
May all the stars on them reflect
Their mildest looks in true respect;
May all the angels them defend
From every thing death ill portend;
May angels, stars, and elements
Afford them such compleat contents,
That they have nothing els to wish
But a persueverence of bliss.

CHORUS.

All joys attend and best of fete
This noble marquess and his mate.

The graces attributed to the Marquis of Dorchester existed only in the imagination of Howell, and those who remembered the Lady Katharine Stanley nobly enduring in her childhood the privations incident to the misfortunes of her family might have wished that a more youthful and less fantastic nobleman had been the object of her affections.

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The End.

The Fifth Report

OF THE

COUNCIL OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY,

Read at the Annual Meeting of the Society, on March 1st, 1852.

THE Publications of the Society for the years 1851-2. consist of *Cardinal Allen's Defence of Sir William Stanley's Surrender of Deventer, January 29th, 1586-7.* edited by THOMAS HEYWOOD, Esq., F.S.A.; and the *Autobiography of Henry Norwiche*, edited by the Rev. R. PATKINSON, D.D., Principal of St. Bees College and Canon of Manchester, in 2 vols.

The first of these volumes was issued some months since; and the two remaining volumes are now in the Binder's hands, and will be ready to deliver to the Members in the course of a week from this time.

Cardinal Allen's Defence possesses peculiar interest from the light it throws on the History of two very eminent men, one a native of Lancashire, and the other, Sir William Stanley, of Cheshire. In referring to it, the Council cannot but express their conviction that it will be found to be one of the most valuable Publications which have been issued by any Society, and that every reader will be gratified by Mr. Heywood's very able, learned, and masterly Introduction.

The *Autobiography of Henry Norwiche* has been so frequently called for and so strong a desire expressed for its appearance, that the Council determined to give it the priority over other works which have been announced as next on the list. It will complete the picture of this estimable Non-conformist; and will, with the previous selection from his *Diary*, edited by Mr. THOMAS HEYWOOD, and the *Life of Montfordale*, probably present as full a view of the characters and habits of life and opinions of the very

interesting class of persons to whom it principally refers, as can elsewhere be found. As Newcome resided nearly forty years in Manchester, his *Autobiography* contains constant notices of, and allusions to contemporary events and persons and families, all of which have their value to the local historian. The Society are indebted to Dr. PARKINSON, the excellent editor of *Adam Martindale*, to whom Newcome's descendant, the late Rev. Thomas Newcome, had entrusted the MS. for publication, for kindly undertaking the editorial duty in connexion with this work.

The works in progress are —

- 1st — Byrom's Remains, edited by the Rev. Dr. PARKINSON.
- 2nd — Chetham Miscellanies, Vol. II., edited by WILLIAM LANGTON, Esq. The Council will be happy to receive any contributions or communications, and particularly single letters or documents of interest, which may fall within the scope of this volume.
- 3rd — Concluding Volume of Worthington's Diary, edited by JAMES CHASLEY, Esq.
- 4th — Nathan Walworth's Correspondence with Peter Seddon of Oatwood, near Manchester, from 1623 to 1654.
- 5th — Chartulary of Delacres Abbey, edited by the Rev. WILLIAM HADFIELD.
- 6th — Inquisitions Post Mortem relating to the County of Lancaster, edited by WILLIAM LANGTON, Esq.
- 7th — Heraldic Visitations of Lancashire, by T. DORNING HIBBERT, Esq.
- 8th — Collectanea Anglo-Poetica; or Bibliographical Notice of some of the rarer poetical volumes in the library of a Lancashire resident.

The Tenth Report

OF THE

COUNCIL OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

Read at the Annual Meeting of the Society on March 1st, 1853.

THE three Works for the past year consist of:

1st. *The Jacobite Tracts of Manchester in 1694*, with an Introduction and Notes by WILLIAM BEAUMONT Esq. These Tracts have never before been published, and relate to a very curious chapter in the History of the Time.

2nd. *The Courier Book of Penetration*, edited by W. A. HULTON Esq.

3rd. *The Earls of Derby and the Verse Writers and Poets of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, by THOMAS HEYWOOD Esq. F.R.S. forming Part I. of the *Stanley Papers*.

The Council confidently expect that these three Publications, all of which are very nearly printed off, will be in the hands of the Members during the present month.

The Council have to express the greatest regret in being called upon to announce that the excellent Honorary Secretary to the Society, Dr. FLEMING, has resigned the duties of that office in consequence of his recent change of residence. His services both in aiding to establish the Society at the onset, and during its progress for the period of ten years for which he has held the office, have been truly invaluable. The Council cannot fail to record their conviction that the Society owes much of its success and prosperity to the judicious counsels, systematic exactness, and unremitting exertions of Dr. FLEMING.

EDMUND LYON, JR.
JOHN OWEN
JNO. E. GREGAN.

